

BASEBALL MIRACLES

*Serving others
with joy through
unity, initiative
and deeds.*



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ISSUE #3

PRINT NEWSLETTER

Also find us online:

 baseballmiracles.org

 Baseball Miracles

 @baseballmiracles

FOUNDER'S CORNER

As the BM's team continues to endeavor into this last quarter for 2018, we would like to express our deepest appreciation to all our sponsors and donors who so generously gave and enabled us have another year of service. Serving others is our goal. With your almsgiving we were able to reach the Philippines and the Dominican Republic. Our last trip of the year will be in Puerto Rico!

Many nonprofit groups, especially our all-volunteer team, continue to solicit your empathy in an altruistic manner.

We know that BM is not alone when soliciting funds and equipment donations, therefore, if the above mentioned is not in your means, we ask that you send along your prayers which give us strength for our missions.

John Tumminia

Founder, Baseball Miracles



Spanish translation:

RINCÓN DEL FUNDADOR

Mientras el equipo de BM continúa este año, nos gustaría expresar nuestro agradecimiento a todos nuestros patrocinadores y donantes quien nos permitió tener otro año de servicio. Servir a los demás es nuestro objetivo. Con su limosna pudimos llegar a Filipinas y la República Dominicana. ¡Nuestro último viaje del año será en Puerto Rico!

Muchos grupos sin fines de lucro, especialmente nuestro equipo de voluntarios, continúan solicitando su empatía de manera altruista.

Sabemos que BM no está solo cuando solicita donaciones de fondos y equipos, por lo tanto, si lo mencionado anteriormente no está en sus medios, le pedimos que envíe sus oraciones para ganar fuerza para nuestras misiones.

John Tumminia

Fundador de los Milagros del Béisbol

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BASEBALL MIRACLES
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MIRACLES ON THE DIAMOND

Clint Hurdle recently wrote an article for beliefnet.com entitled: "Miracles on the Diamonds, Serving others through the game of baseball" Read the excerpt below, or the full article at: www.beliefnet.com/entertainment/sports/miracles-on-the-diamonds.

"John told me that on every trip, he gets asked the same question by the kids. The first time it shocked him, but now he's – sadly – ready for it. "Why are you doing this for us?" the children ask. "How did you even hear about us, hear that we exist? Nobody cares about us." Not in a whiny, self-pitying way. Just factual.

John tells them, "You don't know us, and we don't really know you, but you matter. And we love you."

And then they teach them baseball, laugh with them and love on them. Give them cleats or gloves or shirts to keep. And hugs."



Clint Hurdle
Adviser, Instructor

WELCOME NEW INTERN!

We would like to announce the addition of Meaghan Roche to our team for the fall semester as our Media Communications intern. We are very excited to see what Meaghan brings to the table in the next few months.

MEAGHAN ROCHE

Meaghan is currently a senior at Marist College studying Sports Communication and Journalism. For the past two years she has worked on the editorial staff at Marist's new online campus sports publication. In addition, she interned in the publishing industry with Macmillan Learning this past summer. Growing up in what she lovingly refers to as a baseball family, she developed a love of the sport early on and now continues to pursue a career in the sports industry. Baseball Miracles has afforded her the perfect opportunity to encourage the same love she feels for baseball in children who might not otherwise be exposed to the sport.

IN MY OWN WORDS

In our last issue we had staff give their input about their favorite trip. This time, we asked the children from recent trips to Kentucky and Argentina for comments:



HELLO FROM BEATTYVILLE, KENTUCKY

Byron said it was the coolest weekend of his life and he wished they would come back.

Jeff said he learned so much and one day he hopes to give back to kids like this group helped him.

Trace said it was so awesome to have these people would come to our little town just to help us.

Abby said it was totally awesome to see girls playing ball.

Parker said Mr. John was so cool and he loved the kids.

We had several kids say they want to be ball players and all of them want the guys to come back.



GREETINGS FROM ARGENTINA

Luna said what she liked most about the clinic were the batting sessions.

Alejo said what he liked most were the pitching practices and that they could train in the National Stadium. He enjoyed it a lot!

Isaac said thank you to Baseball Miracles for taking the time to come and teach them the sport of baseball. He really thinks the group are some excellent people, and hopes God blesses them!

Sheila (baseball instructor) said: "Excellent clinic in the National Stadium of baseball of Argentina! Many thanks to the brilliant team of Baseball Miracles. The kids learned a lot and had a ton of fun! The parents were astonished by the organization and the warmth of everyone. It was a pleasure to share the field with people with such experience. Much luck on your next adventures!"



A special initiative by Ryan Mitchell at the Oakland A's Colosseum

HUMANS MAKING MIRACLES, THEY BEGIN WITH YOU

You'll often hear out of our BM team, 'Miracles Everyday'. That short phrase has turned into a motto and way of life for those who carry out our mission in His vision. More than that, it has evolved into a standard we hold ourselves to. Only by setting miracle expectations, will we see miracle results.

The truth is, God has both challenged us and given us the gift of being able to make miracles happen. Creating them requires hard work, perseverance and faith in His plan, but each and every human being has the ability to do so. One good deed, one selfless act, one brief moment, can make all the difference. We carry out the Lord's will, but miracles begin with us. Miracles can begin with YOU!

So we encourage you to go out into your own lives with that thought in mind. Seek out the opportunity to help and make an impact for those who need it. You never know when you will end up changing a life. As our team says 'Miracles Everyday', and the next one can start with YOU!

Kyle Bamberger
Communications Coordinator, Team Member

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

An interview with Michael McCarthy - Coach with the Rochester Red Wings/Field Coordinator for Baseball Miracles



Can you tell us a little about yourself and your career?

I grew in California, went to California State University- Bakersfield where I played, then was drafted by the Boston Red Sox (2011) as a pitcher and just wrapped up my first season coaching with the Twins AAA team (Rochester Red Wings).

What was one of your biggest accomplishments and challenges in your professional career?

In 2014, 2015 and 2016 I received the Portland Sea Dogs Citizen of the Year Award. It was a great feeling to perform on the field but more importantly is how we leave the world better than we found it. I was incredibly appreciative that my teammates and the fans recognized my efforts to do that.

Realizing I was too old and didn't have the skill set to continue playing at a high level. Its a brutal reality of not getting calls from teams or hearing them say they aren't interested. 87-91 at 30 years old just isn't something teams were looking for. A tough reality that shakes you up but reminded me of why I put so much emphasis on my education and career growth beyond playing.

How did you first hear of Baseball Miracles?

I met John (Tumminia) in Lynchburg, VA between games of a double header in 2013. He was there scouting and I was there playing. I had heard about his desire to serve the world through baseball and wanted to learn more. We had a great conversation and eventually over the next week I got involved and have been a part of it since.

What drew you to the Baseball Miracles mission?

I had been looking for a great way to serve those around me through baseball. Various ideas and organizations I had read about but nothing that really stood out. In the middle of that season I got sent down from AA to High A and that same day is when I originally heard about what John was working on. He seemed to have the same desire to serve as I did and I felt my energy to serve grow.

How does your experiences in the industry translate to working with the Baseball Miracles mission?

I coach some of the best athletes in the world. These guys can do incredible things with a ball and bat. I am impressed by their skill each day. I realize that not all of them came from ideal opportunities to play but because a coach, community member or non-profit helped them. I am confident we will help a child play professional baseball one day. Working with young kids and those who may not have access to it without the help of Baseball Miracles reminds me each day how blessed I am to have played and now coached.

In which ways do you feel you can best contribute to the mission?

I enjoy the opportunity to fundraise, collect equipment, spread awareness and coach the kids. We've been able to bring together a lot of generous entities from around the world that all have the desire to serve. I feel I've been able to help make that happen.

What are some of your core values that are most important to you?

That we are all here to serve those around us and we should leave them better than we found them.

What does the future hold for you professionally, personally and with Baseball Miracles?

Professionally is in baseball. I've had business experience outside of baseball but I believe baseball is where I should be. Continuing to find ways of helping Baseball Miracles grow as we look to serve more children.

Can you describe your current role with our organization?

Currently I am the Field Coordinator. I help organize and execute the clinics we put on for the communities we serve.

Tell me about the relationship between you and John.

John and I are bonded in spirit as we both look to serve less fortunate youth on and off the field.

Is there a particular story from your relationship with John, that resonates with you?

John and I sat down with the head of a school in Kenya. There was a miscommunication on the dates/times and number of kids prior to our arrival. We had 7 staff members and 400 kids to coach in a community that had no real understanding of baseball. We all banded together to make it work. Exhausted, sunburnt and sore we were all ready to call it a day after hours of coaching in the sun. Some of the kids at the local orphanage we were staying at wanted to play but hadn't gotten to go to the clinic. We pulled some extra gear out, tapped our energy reserves and had a blast teaching them the game. They were ecstatic, just as we were. The group truly made a baseball miracles happen and it reminded us all why we work so hard to make Baseball Miracles a reality.

What are some of your goals for Baseball Miracles?

To expand our ability to serve the world around us through the game of baseball. We are blessed to play, coach, work and cheer for this game. I believe we are all called to pay it forward and Baseball Miracles is a great group of people who do just that.

Thank
YOU!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR MOST RECENT SPONSORS:

*Rob Nelson, owner of Big League Chew,
Dr. Paul Burows, Anthony Defini of Kingston
Nissan, Rochester Red Wings Baseball Club, Molly
Moltane, the Amodeo family, Marlboro Mini
Storage, Robert Lossow of Office Max
& Scott Bamberger of the Warwick Masons.*

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS: Adam Gerentine & Nicholas A. Pascale

ADAM GERENTINE

Adam Gerentine will be stepping into the role of Brand Ambassador for Baseball Miracles. We are very excited to have Adam on our team, as he will bring a variety of skills and experience to help guide us into the future. The new position will have a huge impact on our direction and improve the organization in many areas.

Mr. Gerentine is a Managing Director with the London-based boutique investment manager, Trinity Street Asset Management. At Trinity Street, Adam is responsible for managing key relationships with endowments, foundations, pension funds, family offices and investment consultants globally. Prior to joining Trinity Street in 2017, Adam was a Director with Tremblant Capital.

He began his career with HGK Asset Management where he ultimately oversaw all aspects of the firm's business development and client service functions. Adam received his Bachelor of Science degree in Business Finance from Rochester Institute of Technology where he was a 4-year starter on the Men's Baseball team. Additionally, he serves on the Board of Directors of the Association of Investment Management Sales Executives (AIMSE), a non-profit organization.



NICHOLAS A. PASCALE

Nicholas A. Pascale will be the newest member of our advisory board and team. Mr. Pascale is a partner with the general practice law firm of Drake Loeb, PLLC in New Windsor, New York. He attended Colgate University in Hamilton, New York and earned his law degree from Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. His law practice is focused on general, commercial, and civil litigation in New York State and Federal Courts.

Mr. Pascale is active in his local community and was honored to be asked by John Tumminia to contribute to the broader global community through the charitable work of Baseball Miracles. He will be providing legal and strategic leadership for BM, as we look to best position ourselves in the present, as well as for the future.



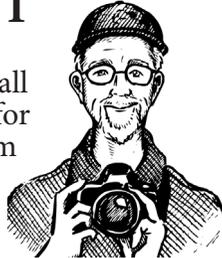
We are very lucky to have a person of his caliber working to serve the BM mission and a man with his heart on our team. Thank you Mr. Pascale for your selfless generosity.

Please join us in welcoming Adam Gerentine and Nicholas A. Pascale to the Baseball Miracles team!

STAFF SHOUTOUT to Carl Kline!

Carl is a photographer for Baseball Miracles and has been shooting for Baseball America and MiLB.com for many years.

Thank you for all you do for Baseball Miracles!



PHILIPPINES REVISITED

After the success of last year's Philippines clinic, I decided to go back again in 2018. So this year I travelled to Lucena, a coastal city south of Manila. After 22 hours of flying and a 4 hour drive I held 3 clinics in a purok (small village) in Ibabang Dupay. In the Philippines, the people are so welcoming, the climate is perfect, and the enthusiasm of the children is unforgettable. You would never know they have little connection to baseball- and even fewer resources to speak of. On one day we even did a field rehab turning an overlooked lot into a place where baseball miracles can occur. I was quickly given the name Coach Eric and I taught the usual fundamentals, throwing, hitting and fielding, but as always, I learned so much more. Once again the game became the language and each day there was visible improvement. In addition to the 3 clinics, I established what will hopefully be a future relationship with Lucena because I was invited to a Department of Education sports ceremony and spoke about Baseball Miracles and our mission.

Eric Claro *Instructor, Web Developer*

WISH LIST

Needed equipment for upcoming trips to the Philippines, New Mexico & Ghana:
New gloves, gently used baseballs and softballs, batting T's, whiffle balls & bats

Newsletter Editor & Illustrations:
Ashley D. Poulin



THY WILL BE DONE ON EARTH...

*It's hard to count it all joy, distracted by the noise
Just trying to make sense, of all your promises
Sometimes I gotta stop, remember that you're God
And I am not...so*

"Thy Will Be Done" song by Hillary Scott

This song is such a beautiful reminder that we are called to surrender to God, and give up our own plans for our lives. This does not mean that the road will be easy and without pain, but He does promise to comfort us in the midst of it all. Saying "Thy will be done" is a journey and an everyday decision for us to make. I know in my own life I often try to play the role of God and every time it fails! His plan is so much greater, and far better than anything we could imagine!

Caroline Breeden

Missions Coordinator, Team Member